

From: [chuck](#)
To: [The Vasbys](#)
Subject: RE: Lincoln High Newsletter - 6/28/07
Date: Thursday, June 28, 2007 9:21:29 PM

Kent

**Hartley was class of 63!
hiners**

Lincoln High Newsletter

Address change:

Marilyn (Slinkman) Smits - m-smits003@wi.rr.com

Kent

Thanks for the 1957 Little League article. I was on the Cardinals also in '57. I have a picture of the team but I have to find it again. When I do, I will scan it and send it to you or Chuck.

Thanks

John Bushmaker nikidog@charter.net

From the Newsletter 4 years ago! 6/26/03

Wisconsin Rapids Memories from Bill (63) & Shirley (Black 64) Hartley toyguy5538@aol.com

When we started reading the Class of '65 newsletter, Shirley and I realized how much we remember the good times growing up in the Rapids. Times have certainly changed!

We remember riding our bikes around town, going to movies at the Palace, Rapids, and Wisconsin theaters and coming out and finding our bikes still there waiting for us. We never gave it a second thought that someday we'd have to lock them up. We could go anywhere in town without our parents worrying about someone "getting" us.

Swimming was a special time of summer in the Rapids. Kids had a choice of the old swimming pool on the East side (complete with river water), Lake Wazeecha, or the new Port Edwards pool (with clean, clear water - what a concept!) The issue was getting there. We could ride our bikes to the pool, hitchhike to the Lake, or take the Milwaukee Road train to Port. Decisions, decisions. Of course if we chose the Lake, we always went to the "white" beach (whether it was politically correct or not).

Little League baseball at Robinson Park was a huge deal. It was the sign that a guy made it. As it was in the Color Guard for Shirley. The competition made for sweaty palms for days before.

Shopping at the corner grocery store was always fun. East Grand Grocery, Parson's, Peter's, Peterson's, and the Farmer Store, to name a few. Nickels went a long way at those places, especially if you were into penny candy.

As we got older, our interests changed. We started going to drive-in movies and dances at the Palace and the Corpsman Hall. All of the activity at the drive-in and the dancing worked up a great appetite.

We remember eating at the Golden Eagle (best barbecue in town), Sowatzke's Root Beer Stand, Robbie's (the original fast food), Wilpolt's, Art's, The Sugar Bowl (remember the home-made candy?), The Friendly Fountain (nickel pinball machines), the Moon Pizzeria (remember the near beer?), Wilbern's (on prom night), and who can forget Herschleb's ice cream and the Dairy Queen on East Grand? And Portesi's Pizza - we've eaten a lot of pizza over the years, and haven't found any we like better. We still stop there when we're in town. (Mr. Portesi doesn't come out and "check the thermostat" when we're being rowdy any more, though.)

And after all that good food, we loved to wash it down with nickel beers at Meehan Station (on Tuesday nights) or with our favorite "shorty" at the Pour Inn. Weekends often found us traveling to Waupaca to the Indian Crossing Casino. I'm gaining weight just thinking about it!

We remember cruising Grand Avenue with the lake plugs or headers partially open, turning around the island by the depot, and going back across the bridge again. Once in a while we'd venture out to East Washington Street with a buddy to see whose car was faster. Those were the days when our Untouchables Car Club plaque, hanging below the back bumper in super cool fashion, dragged when we drove into Sowatzke's Drive-In. I can still hear the sounds...

Where did we get the money to eat and drink and cruise all the time? Why from working at Spiegel's, The First National Bank, Sampson Canning Company, Preway, Montgomery Ward, Northern Auto Supply, Clark Chevrolet, George Nimtz Buick, and C&R Motors, that's where. Remember any of them?

Yes, times have changed in Rapids. Only a few of those places physically remain, but they still live on in our memories. How about in yours?

Shirley (Black) Hartley, class of '64

Bill Hartley, class of '65